

COMMUNITY & FARM NEWS

Service members to hear Acie Taylor August 19th



Geneva resident Acie Taylor, a veteran of WW II, will speak to area members of the Sons of the American Revolution at a meeting Aug. 19 at the Devco Restaurant on Hwy. 27 South.

Taylor, who landed on Utah Beach on D-Day and ended his war service in Germany, was wounded at St. Lo in France and sent to England to recuperate. He returned to his combat unit, and with Gen. George Patton's Third Army fought across France and into Germany.

Members of the Sons of the Revolution are "dedicated to the preservation of U.S. history and heritage . . . and are descended from those colonial patriots who fought for or assisted in freeing the American colonies from control of the British Crown."

For more information contact Jack M. Brown, Geneva, 684-9327; or John R. Wallace, Enterprise, 347-0661.

Purebred beef cattle breeders excel in County

Stan Windham, County Extension Agent

As the beef cattle industry continues to grow across the Southeast and more particularly in the Wiregrass area, purebred beef cattle producers become more and more important. Cattle producers in many counties must travel great distances to find purebred bulls and females to use their cattle herd. We are very lucky, here in Coffee County, to have many top notch purebred producers.

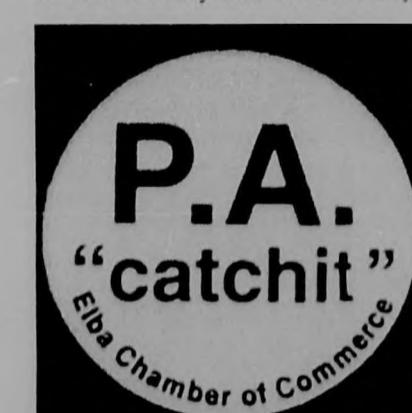
In the following paragraphs, I would like to give you a list of these producers and the area of the county in which they are located. I work with all of these producers and please forgive me if I leave you out and you are a purebred producer. If by some reason, I have not worked with you, and you read this article and your farm is not mentioned, please give me a call and in a future article I will be more than happy to correct that.

Simmental producers across Coffee County are: Steven Bozeman, located west of Elba; Lee Boyd, located out of New Brockton.

Angus producers located in Coffee County are: Max Bozeman, located west of Elba; Michael McCull, located west of Elba; Ray Boyd and Muki Anns of One Way Angus, located out of Enterprise.

Charolais producers of Coffee County are: Larry Parker of Kingston; Ray Barley located out of Enterprise; Jason Farris and Greg Ogleby of the Damascus Community.

Gelbvieh producers of Coffee County are: Larry Davis and Cheryl Bailey located in southwest Coffee County and Tom Cauley,



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Don't Forget To



Maintaining cotton quality meeting to be held August 26th

Richard L. Petcher, County Extension Agent

Azalea Caterpillars

The azalea caterpillars are presently feeding on many azalea bushes in the area. The remedy is simple. Almost any insecticide will kill them. So just get out and spray.

Squirrels in Pecans

Squirrels are notorious for eating pecans before the pecans ever mature. A homeowner may have a few shade tree pecans that are loaded with pecans and a family of squirrels moves in, takes over and leaves you with no pecans for your family.

Trapping squirrels is possible with a wooden box trap or "Hive-A-Hat Trap." Bait the trap with peanut butter, corn, fruit or nuts. Catch the squirrels and relocate them. If you are in the country, you can shoot the squirrels during season. You may sometimes receive a special permit from the Alabama Department of Fish and Game to protect your orchard before the season.

If your trees are far enough away from other trees where the squirrels cannot jump from one tree to the next, you can place a protective collar of sheet metal on your trees. Take a 4-ft. roll of sheet metal and wrap it around a pecan tree. Place it at least 4 feet off ground level. A good cat or yard dog may also be helpful.

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Stinkbugs in Cotton

1999 may go down as the lightest year on record in cotton.

Growers and scouts still need to be on the alert, especially on late-planted cotton. The Boll and Tobacco Budworms and primarily Fall Armyworms are present and still need to be scouted for.

The speakers will be Mike Patterson - Cotton Defoliation, Dennis Delany - UNR Cotton, Nathan Wynn (USDA Cotton Clipping Officer) - Grading Cotton, and Bob Goodman - Marketing Cotton.

Call 334-693-3800 to R.S.V.P. for the sponsored meal by August 25.

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Maintaining Cotton Quality Meeting

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The Elba Clipper

Volume 103, Number 11

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, August 26, 1999

1 Section, 14 Pages

COMMISSION ELECTS TO JOIN EEDC

Coffee County adopts strategic plan

by Marvin McLain, Editor

The Coffee County Commission meeting was unusually crowded Monday with representatives from the organization. Coffee County will be allowed one representative (a commissioner) on the EEDC board of directors to coordinate activities between the EEDC and the county. In addition to the one board member from the commission, two board members will be appointed by the EEDC from outside Enterprise with business ties to serve on the board of directors.

In presenting "21 and Beyond" he commended the commissioners for their foresight in commissioning the organization. "You have excellent wisdom and judgment, and I believe history will honor you for it," said Stewart.

He praised the many individuals who gave freely of their time in helping to bring together the many aspects of a workable strategic plan for Coffee County.

Stewart noted the different issues addressed in the plan as being agriculture/agriculture, communication technology, economic development, education, quality of life, and transportation. The detailed plan outlines things that can be done to bring about improvement in each of the issues addressed.

The focus of the strategic plan is to get all the citizens of Coffee County working together for the good of the whole county and not just one certain area or aspect of development.

Commissioner Robert Stephens expressed concern, saying, "I cannot vote to take money away from some fellow that lives on a dirt road on a hill where the school bus can't go and go into a new program."

A motion to proceed with the partnership was made by Commissioner Tom Grimsley and seconded by Commissioner Brooks. County Administrator Wilson Mobley noted the funds, \$50,000.00 (paid in four quarterly payments of \$12,500.00) will be paid out of the county's Public Buildings/Road & Bridge Fund.

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A motion to table the matter for further study by Commissioner Lewis failed to pass with Commissioners Lewis, Linda Westbrook and Stephens voting for and Commissioners Grimsley, Brooks, Len Averett, and Doug Dallymore voting against.

"The plan will remain just that unless it is acted on," said Stewart.

"If you (the commission) embrace the plan, the next step will be to designate those who will work with you on implementation of the plan. You will find many capable leaders throughout the county who will be happy to work with you if you will only seek them out."

In the adoption of the plan by the commission, Commissioner Bernest Brooks commented, "Most places spend \$20,000 to \$30,000 to develop a strategic plan such as the one presented. This one was prepared by a group of volunteers with no cost to the taxpayers of Coffee County."

Appearing before the commission on behalf of the Enterprise Economic Development Corporation (EEDC) were Brett Morgan and Tim Alford. They presented a plan to the commission for their consideration in finalizing their [the commission] becoming a part of the EEDC.

Morgan pointed out that the articles of corporation and by-laws of

the corporation will be changed to allow Coffee County as well as Geneva County to become part of the organization. Coffee County will be allowed one representative (a commissioner) on the EEDC board of directors to coordinate activities between the EEDC and the county. In addition to the one board member from the commission, two board members will be appointed by the EEDC from outside Enterprise with business ties to serve on the board of directors.

Webb explained that the condition is fast becoming a serious one with the status of the two units being in question. Using a map of the county, he pointed out the immediate areas affected by this problem.

During Webb's presentation of the early planning stages of the development of a county-wide E-911 system, the two squads, along with Enterprise and Kinason rescue squads, agreed to provide emergency medical services to certain areas of the county, with the potential disbandment of these two units - New Brockton and Elba - a large portion of the county will be without these critical services.

Currently, attempts are being made to revive the Elba Rescue Squad and to keep the New Brockton Unit in service; however, "it doesn't look good," Webb told commissioners.

Please See CCC Page 3



HOUSE ON THE MOVE ...There is more to moving a house than one might think! Movers don't just jack it up, put it on a trailer, and take off down the road to a new site. Even though Donald Hussey, his sons, and employees make it look easy - it's not. There is a lot of work that goes into getting the house ready for travel. It has to be removed from its foundation and mounted on rails and wheels in preparation for the move. Then, permits have to be gotten and utility crews have to be alerted to the move in order to assist with getting the house under the lines. Tuesday, after several days of waiting, Hussey & Sons Movers moved the home formerly owned by Mr. & Mrs. Harold Hazen, and before them John B. Clark, from Neil Grantham Drive along AL 203 By-Pass to a site on Taylor Mill Road. The move was just over a mile, but it took just under two hours to make the journey. Elba police officers assisted with traffic control while utility crews from the City of Elba, Covington Electric, Storer Cable and General Telephone handled utility line clearance. State Highway Department crews removed the traffic lights for the move. The house was purchased by Rachel Ruddock as part of FEMA's Flood Buy-out Program.

Timber sale & board appointments consume council meeting

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

On Monday evening the Elba City Council sold timber, made board appointments, approved sale of a house and heard a report on the sewer project status.

Frances Brunson and Mike McGuire were reappointed to another term on the Elba Zoning Board of Adjustments.

An effort to reactivate the Elba Recreation Board led to the council's decision to hire a consultant to do a five-year term on that advisory board. They are Jenny Allen, Rob Paul, Doug Martin, Jr., Greg Hanchey and Tim Williams.

Stephen was named to the abatement board, replacing Raymond Williams, who resigned due to conflicting schedules.

The council agreed to nominate Roland Powell for a seat on the County Equalization Board.

An effort to reactivate the Elba Industrial Board (EIB) was approached by the EEDC about becoming a part of the Corporation, however, officials with EIB stated that they wish to maintain their own individual entity.

Finally, a vote was taken to join the EEDC with Commissioners Lewis and Stephens casting dissenting votes.

Charles Webb, director of the Coffee County Emergency Management Agency, addressed the commission concerning a potentially serious emergency medical service problem facing a large portion of the county.

"We have for many years in this county enjoyed the services of wonderful volunteer rescue squads," said Webb. "They've done a great job and it has become an everyday part of life, something we

Three bids were received for the 25 acres of timber at Hawkins Williams Park. J.F. Spain Timber Co., Flack-Haney Forest Products, Inc., and Dry Creek Logging, Inc. were the three bidders. Dry Creek was the successful bidder with a bid of \$16,882.82.

The Council voted to accept the high bid on this tract of timber, but before an effort was made by Council member John W. Sharpless to forego the cutting of these trees, Sharpless asked the commissioners that it takes many years to grow a forest and he has visions of one day developing bike trails and walking trails in this area. He explained that the potential for a beautiful park was right here. This motion was seconded by Councilman Ben Carpenter. The vote was four-two against the motion.

The council agreed to nominate Roland Powell for a seat on the County Equalization Board. The appointment will be made by the Governor's office from a list of names nominated by various county municipal councils.

Three recent buy-out homes have been offered to the city by the highest bidder. Only one of the three recent buy-outs bids. There were two bidders for the 660 Smith Avenue former home of Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Smith. High bidder was Dena Richardson, 2164 County Road 239, with a bid of \$10,505.00.

Richardson claimed in her lawsuit that the officers unlawfully entered her residence and searched for her child, who had been stolen, and while at her residence she alleged one of the officers assaulted her. Richardson based her claims upon violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1983, under federal law and assault and battery under state law.

The claim alleged she suffered bodily injury, mental stress and mental anguish and sought monetary damages, which included punitive damages and attorney's fees. The two police officers denied the claims and testified under oath to a different set of facts.

Prior to the trial, which began on August 16, 1999, at the federal courthouse in Dothan before Judge Harold Albritton, the court dismissed the city as a defendant and the defendants Frost and Dozier were dismissed in their capacities as police officers. The case went to trial against the defendants in their individual capacity. After a two day trial the jury returned verdicts in favor of both defendants Frost and Dozier.

News Briefs

A Coffee County man was killed during the weekend in a one-vehicle crash. Tony Terrell Williams, 20, of New Brockton died in an accident that occurred on Co. Rd. 517 (a dirt road) at approximately 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 22. Reportedly, Williams was driving at 70 mph when he went off the road about two miles west of New Brockton. The incident is being investigated by Alabama State Trooper Jerry Allen.

An Enterprise man has been charged in the suffocation death of a four-month old infant. On Monday, Enterprise police arrested and charged Anthony Lampton, 21, of Hildreth Street, Enterprise, with capital murder after their investigation into the Sunday morning death of the 16-week-old infant. Lampton, who was a police officer, was arrested after he was called to the emergency room at Medical Center Enterprise to investigate the death of the infant. Lampton is being held in the Coffee County Jail without bond. The incident remains under investigation by the Enterprise Police Department.

In an emergency situation Tuesday afternoon, the Coffee County Board of Education voted to accept the resignation of Terrell L. Potts, a fourth-grade teacher at New Brockton Elementary School, thus releasing her from her contractual agreement. They gave the superintendent, Rodger Bowden, permission to advertise the vacancy immediately.

Area Happenings

AREA FOOTBALL GAMES Area high school football games scheduled for Thursday and Friday nights are as follows: Elba High School kicks off the season against Brantley High School in Brantley Thursday (TONIGHT); Zion Chapel is at home against Luverne Friday; New Brockton plays host to Luverne Friday; and Kinaston has the home field advantage over Arton Friday evening. Kick-off for all games is set for 7:30 p.m.

COUNCIL MEETING The New Brockton Town Council will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, September 7, at 7 p.m. in lieu of Monday, September 6. This change is due to observance of the Labor Day holiday on Monday.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
With Ferrin Cox

The retail business community of Elba continues to expand. It is now official for the new shopping center being developed on the 203 Bypass - Benton's will be opening their restaurant in September, or just as soon as their special needs equipment is installed. Also it is official that Factory Connection will be opening in the shopping center. This store sells women's and men's clothing in over 115 stores. Both these have been rumored for some time, but as of last week the leases are signed by both sides and the companies are ready to come to Elba. Factory Connection is also advertising in this issue of The Elba Clipper for help. Talking with the developers of the shopping center on Monday, we learned that they are already planning the Phase II construction for additional expected retail outlets. They are finding that as new businesses sign up, it inspires others to inquire about a building. The principals are excited that their many contacts nationwide are beginning to pay off in positive responses from other firms interested in opening branches of their business in good ol' Elba, Alabama for the first time ever.

Last week we expressed our thrill over the growing support and attention from the business community for academic excellence. Our examples were the two Rotary scholarships and the four \$100 cash awards for high test scores. Little did we know at the time these four students were the lucky winners out of a whole pile. A group of 40 who had improved their test scores 10% or more from 1998 to 1999 had their names put in a pot and two were drawn as the lucky \$100 cash winners. Then the names of a whopping 13 Elba students, grades seven through twelve, who had a 75% or better score (the national average is 50%), were put in the pot and two of them were drawn out for the \$100 cash awards. Ain't it great!

More on the student test scores. Someone is doing something right when a school system the size of Elba's has 137 students scoring 25 points above the national average. Further evidence that the Elba teachers are on the right track is that 40 students succeeded in increasing their scores on a battery of tests by 10% or more. One purpose of these tests is to measure the achievements of the students - Elba is doing great, as shown by the evidence. Another goal of the tests is to identify areas of weakness in individual students and concentrate on improving them - 40 Elba students improved their national standing by 10% in a single year! We are reminded of the bumper sticker which read, "If you can read this, thank a teacher!" With all its human strengths and weaknesses, the Elba school system is obviously staffed with teachers who deserve more credit than we as a community tend to give them.

The earthquake in Turkey last week ranked up there with the worst on record. Adding the known dead with thousands of citizens reportedly still missing and you have wiped out a population larger than all of Coffee County, Alabama. We all bemoan our problems, but just imagine going to bed one night in Montgomery or Dothan and waking up the next morning to the fact that a population the size of Coffee County was just gone forever, wiped off the map to become a footnote in history. We sit here in our air conditioned homes, safe from the rains and extreme heat and have one more glaring example of why we need to repeat, with sincerity, our prayers of thanks to God above.

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Outside Alabama - \$18 per year - 6 months - \$10

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, August 16, 1999, investigated the following incidents: two burglaries, eight forgeries, one giving false information to a law enforcement officer, four thefts of property, one criminal mischief, two VPLs, two DUIs, one assault, one reckless endangerment and one kidnapping.

The following arrests were made during the week: one for criminal mischief, one for giving false information to a law enforcement officer, three for VPL, one for reckless driving, three for driving while driver's license is suspended, and two for DUI.

Driftless citations issued during the week are as follows: five for speeding, one for no driver's license, one for running a stop sign, three for reckless driving, three for driving while driver's license is suspended, and two for DUI.

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SCHOOLS

New "Head" Coach



Coach Julius Head

by Sara K. Miller

There is a new face on the football field this year, and it is one of the players!

Coach Julius Head is the new head coach of the Elba Varsity Tigers. A graduate of Greenville High School and Sanford University with a degree in Physical Education, Coach Head has been coaching for 35 years.

His hobbies include golf and fishing. Coach Head enjoys visiting with his grandchildren and watching television to relieve his stress.

One reason he came to Elba High is because his wife Debbie graduated from here, and he is family here. Coach Head is his favorite thing about Elba High is the "great faculty and administration."

His goal for the football team is to turn the program around and gain the community's support for athletics at Elba High School. He asks for the town's pride and support in making this football season the best that it can be. Please come out and support the Elba Tigers!

Meet Mrs Hagen



Mrs. Rebecca Hagen

by Kimberly Ward

Mrs. Rebecca Bryan Hagen is one of the newest faculty members at EHS. Mrs. Hagen attended Pike County High School in Brundidge, Ala. and continued her education with a degree in Business Administration from Troy University. She received a degree in Elementary Education from Troy State University. Mrs. Hagen has been teaching for 22 years. She decided to come to Elba for the quality students and the school. When asked what makes Elba different from her previous school, she said, "The atmosphere and the people can't be beat."

In her spare time, Mrs. Hagen enjoys sewing and biking. She also likes to work in her garden when she is not teaching. We are looking forward to Mrs. Hagen becoming a part of the Elba High School faculty. WELCOME MRS. HAGEN!!!

Try something to sell! Try an Elba Clipper Classified. You'll be glad you did!

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AEC - The Sights

by Tiffany Farris

I had the opportunity to tour Washington D.C. this summer. I went with 36 other junior from the state of Alabama, and also students from 11 other states.

The AEC sponsors a writing contest each year where 11th grade Advanced English students write an essay. The topic this year was Lighting Rural America: What Electric Cooperatives Have Done For Rural America.

Mrs. Padgett, our English teacher, made each student write a paper and from those students she picked the top ten. Then they were to pick the top five. Four others and I then competed to win the trip to Washington D.C. The competition site in Washington, D.C. was the Library of Congress. There we had to answer questions and go for an interview. Then our papers, interviews, and tests were calculated.

We met with U.S. Senators Richard Shelby and Jeff Sessions, and the Representatives from each District.

That was the best time in Washington, D.C. I can honestly say this was a trip I will always remember. It was fun and exciting. I wish I could go back again.

ATTENTION SENIOR PARENTS
If you would like a way to express how proud you are of your Senior child, please consider buying a Grad Ad for the 1999-2000 Elba. The sizes and cost are as follows:

- *1/8 page with 1 picture-\$50
- *1/4 page with 2 pictures-\$70
- *1/2 page with 4 pictures-\$110
- *Full page with up to 8 pictures-\$160

To purchase a Grad Ad, please contact Julie Norris at Elba High School by August 31, 1999.

ESJC NEWS

COMMUNITY CHORUS If you love to sing, join Enterprise State Junior College's Community Chorus. Participants, along with the ESJC Singers, will present a performance in December. The Chorus meets on Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Sept. 20 - Nov. 29. There is a \$10 fee for this course, and the registration deadline is Sept. 13.

USING THE INTERNET How to Use the Internet is a special interest course being offered at Enterprise State Junior College this fall semester. This course will provide some quick tips on how to surf the World Wide Web. It is designed for students who have had NO experience using the Internet. The course is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 18, 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. There is a \$25 fee for this course, and the registration deadline is Sept. 13. For more information call 393-ESJC, ext. 234.

WRITING WORKSHOP Learn how to write a novel with Enterprise State Junior College's new Innovative Novel Writing Workshop. This course is designed for adults. During the workshop participants will learn how to develop a story plan, characters, plot, and descriptions. If you are interested in using in writing a novel published, please contact the Special Education Coordinator's office at the Elba City Board of Education at 897-2801.

It is important that all persons with disabilities be identified so appropriate services can be provided.

First Day Of School Can Be Scary

by Stephanie Williams

The first day of school can be very scary if you are a new student. However, if you are a senior it can be very exciting. We asked Alex Benbow, a seventh grader, about his first day of high school.

"My first day as a seventh grader was a lot different than what I had expected, but in a good way. I was a little nervous at first but once the day began it was not half as bad as I had anticipated. My favorite part about the day is lunch because I get to pick my own food. One major difference between high school and elementary school is the amount of freedom; I don't have teachers breathing down my back all day. I've never made it to the seventh grade, and I'm hoping I make it to the eighth."

We also asked senior, Vaughan Boyd, about her first day.

"The first day of my senior year has now come and gone. It began just as any other first day has over the years, with the normal routine of not wanting to get out of bed. All summer long I have made comments about being a senior, but it never really hit me seriously, until Tuesday morning during the assembly that it's not just talk, it's real!"

That the class of 2000 has begun is something that I did not get to see.

We met with U.S. Senators Richard Shelby and Jeff Sessions, and the Representatives from each District.

That was the best time in Washington, D.C. I can honestly say this was a trip I will always remember. It was fun and exciting. I wish I could go back again.

Elba Elementary School Menu

August 30 - September 3, 1999

BREAKFAST		LUNCH	
Monday	- Cinnamon Toast, 1/2 Apple, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Monday	- Chicken Fingers, Potato Salad, Green Beans, Roll, Applesauce, Milk
Tuesday	- Pancakes, Syrup, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Tuesday	- Vegetable Beef Soup, Cheese Sandwich, Crackers, 1/2 Orange, Milk
Wednesday	- Biscuit & Jelly, Sausage, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Wednesday	- Hot Dog, French Fries, Field Peas, Brownie, Milk
Thursday	- Eggs, Toast & Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Thursday	- Hamburger Helper, Tater Tots, English Peas, 1/2 Orange, Juice, Milk
Friday	- Cheese Grits, Toast & Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Friday	- Barbecue, Rice, Fried Okra, Bread, Banana, Milk

UCA All Star Cheerleaders



by Katie Vaughan

One of Elba High School's students has received yet another honor. Senior, Britt Grimes, was presented the Pre-Season All-State Award by the Alabama Football Preview. A review of the stats from the 1998 football season showed that he is deserving of the honor. Britt is one of two defenders ends who received this award.

Elba City Schools looks for children

The Elba City School System is in the process of identifying all persons with disabilities, age's 3-21 years who are not enrolled in an educational setting.

If you are the parent of a child with disabilities or the parent of someone with disabilities, please contact the Special Education Coordinator's office at the Elba City Board of Education at 897-2801.

It is important that all persons with disabilities be identified so appropriate services can be provided.

In her spare time, Mrs. Hagen enjoys sewing and biking. She also likes to work in her garden when she is not teaching. We are looking forward to Mrs. Hagen becoming a part of the Elba High School faculty. WELCOME MRS. HAGEN!!!

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Stephen Foster Black to be keynote speaker at Coffee County ADC Banquet

On Saturday, Sept. 4, Coffee County may make a bit of history when Stephen Foster Black comes to Enterprise to keynote the Annual Fellowship Awards Dinner of the Coffee County Democratic Conference at Enterprise State Junior College at 7 p.m.

The 26-year-old Stephen Black is the youngest grandson of Hugo Black, the Clay County native who

rose up the ranks to become a distinguished member of the United States Supreme Court for 34 years.

Stephen hopes that he can acquire in time, his grandfather's passion for the U.S. Constitution, as well as Hugo Black's reverence for the importance of the Constitution in respect to public morality, liberty and equality.

He speeches to civic groups

Stephen stresses the importance of coalition-building and voting as a

means of expressing our interracial connectedness and humanity.

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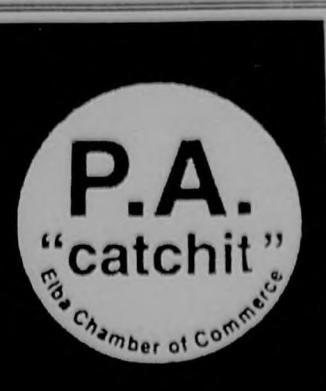
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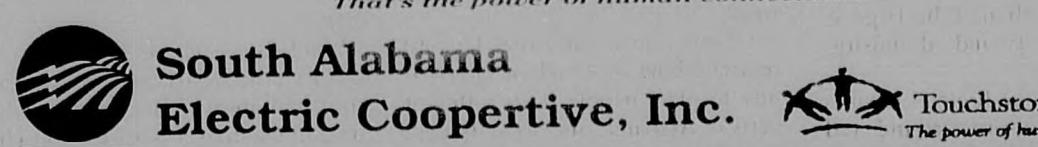
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ment opportunities; it makes the region more attractive for new industry development; it provides a chance for young people to stay here at home to seek their futures. Stella is a star for us all. It enhances employ-

ment opportunities; it makes the region more attractive for new industry development; it provides a chance for young people to stay here at home to seek their futures. Stella is a star for these kids.

That's the power of human connections.



South Alabama Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Touchstone Energy

The power of human connections

Jamilla D. Flowers enters basic military training

Army Reserve Pte. Jamilla D. Flowers has entered basic military training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. Flowers is the daughter of Willie C. and Mary J. Flowers of 191 County Road 500, Elba. She is a 1999 graduate of New Brockton High School.

87th Infantry to celebrate Golden Anniversary Reunion

On Sept. 26 to Oct. 3, the 87th (Golden Acorn) Infantry Division will hold and celebrate its 50th Anniversary Reunion at the Drawbridge Estates in Ft. Mitchell, Ky.

The combat ability of the 87th Infantry Division was held in high regard by Gen. George Patton, Commander of the U.S. Third Army, and this Division received three Bronze Star for its most valiant efforts in the Battle of the Ardennes, Rhineland, and Central Europe. For additional information on the 87th Infantry Division and 50th Anniversary contact: Gladwin Pascuzzo, 2374 N. Dundee Ct., Highland, Mich. 48356-3716. Telephone (248)887-9005 or e-mail GAPEX1@aol.com.

FREE adult education classes are offered in basic reading, writing, math and prepare for the GED Test.

Enterprise State Junior College and the Southeast Alabama Adult Education Network bring a session to New Brockton High School, Room 12, on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Four separate sessions to ESJC on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

For additional information on the 87th Infantry Division and 50th Anniversary contact: Gladwin Pascuzzo, 2374 N. Dundee Ct., Highland, Mich. 48356-3716. Telephone (248)887-9005 or e-mail GAPEX1@aol.com.

Call 393-ESJC, ext. 218 to find out more about these special FREE classes!

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SPORTS

Views from

THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz

The new school year is in full swing, and at the Mularz house that means a very busy time for Mom, Dad and both of the girls. Melissa is a junior this year and in between playing volleyball and cheering there are never enough hours in the day, or night, for her to get everything done, while Melanie is in the fifth grade, and after joining the band now serenades us almost every night with the lovely sounds of her saxophone. Mom's taxi isn't quite as busy as in years past since Melissa has her driver's license, but she still follows the girls around, and Dad tries to find time in his 14-hour a day schedule to watch volleyball, listen to saxophone practice, support the schools and try to find time to at least say "Hi" to Mom. Now that the summer vacation is over, I need a vacation!

OPENING WEEK OF FOOTBALL SHOULD BE INTERESTING

The high school football season kicks off this week, and it should be a very interesting week of action for all the teams in the coverage area. The teams will open tonight (Thursday) when Elba heads up to Brantley, while New Brockton, Kinston, and Zion Chapel will be at home Friday night for their season openers. Here's a quick look at all the teams and my gut feeling about what lies ahead.

*** ELBA TIGERS - The Tigers seem to be fired up about the upcoming season and believe that they will post a winning season. Coach Julius Head has tried to get the team as fundamentally sound as possible heading into the season, and while it may be a few weeks before the Tigers are actually ready to hit on all cylinders, the Tigers should be a much improved team when they take the field against Brantley. If Elba can move the ball consistently on offense, and play tough, hard-nosed football on defense, they could have a shot at posting a winning record this year.

*** NEW BROCKTON GAMECOCKS - The Gamecocks are short on numbers and experience, but have a solid core of seniors who have never lost in any sport, and if they can stay injury free should have a solid shot at improving on last year's success. Coach Tim Thrasher has his system in place at Brockton, and what this team can do, and despite the run-and-shooting down for the Gamecocks. I think this bunch wants to show everyone. I may be the only one who feels this way, but I think the '99 Gamecocks will be fun to watch.

*** KINSTON BULLDOGS - The Bulldogs have been capped up for the past two years and have been chomping at the bits to rip into somebody and win a football game. Last season's 0-10 season made many of the folks down in Kinston wonder out loud if football was really all that important at the school. That question should be answered by this year's team, because this bunch works as hard as any team around and Coach Mickey Jacobs is convinced that this will be the Bulldog team that takes a step forward. Kinston's schedule doesn't contain any easy wins, but the wins could come if the Bulldogs can get a few breaks and win a game early in the season. This could be an interesting season in Kinston.

*** ZION CHAPEL REBELS - The Rebels continue to be plagued with a lack of numbers, and while this year's team is only an injury two away from a disaster, it may also be a break or two away from a winning team. The Rebels have some solid seniors in key positions, and despite the lack of wins in recent years, play to win every time it takes. No doubt the opposition. Coach Grant has his players believe they can win, and believing in him and his program. Numbers, or lack of them, will again play a major role in the success of the Rebels in '99, but the guess here is that Zion Chapel will be much better than many think no matter what the record might state.

*** BRANTLEY BULLDOGS - The Bulldogs have practically every body back off last year's state championship team, and if the Bulldogs don't get the big head and don't believe what they read in the papers about how good they are, they should have an excellent chance at winning back-to-back titles. There is no doubt Coach David Lowrey inherited a 1A power up in Brantley, and there is also no doubt that the Bulldogs will be improved in many areas because of Coach Lowrey's knowledge of the game. Brantley's biggest opponent could very well be overconfidence! Hey, the Bulldogs are loaded with talent, size, strength and speed, and the players know what it feels like to win a state championship and remember what it takes to get there. I can't wait to see this bunch in action!

WHO IS GOING TO BE GOOD IN '99? HERE ARE MY GUESSES

The '99 high school football season is here, and despite what the arm chair quarterbacks think, it is impossible to forecast how good any team is going to be just because they look good in practice, or was good last season. I get asked all the time how good teams are going to be. I honestly don't know, but here is what I think....

*** CLASS 1A - Brantley should be head and shoulders better than anyone in 1A, part of the state in 1A circles, while Frisco City will be improved, Florala will be much better than anyone thinks and G.W. Long appears ready to bounce back with a vengeance. Other teams to keep an eye on could be Sweet Water, A.L. Johnson and Notasulga.

*** CLASS 2A - Geneva County should be hard to beat again this season, as should New Brockton, Cottonwood, and Georgia. Other teams to keep an eye on include Southern, Choctaw, Wicksburg, Highland Home and Alabama Christian.

*** CLASS 3A - UMS-Wright will be the team to beat in South Alabama in the 3A ranks, while Luverne, St. James and Bienville will also be hard to beat on any given night. Other teams to watch should be Flomaton, Leroy, Elba and Monroe. Andalusia.

*** CLASS 4A - Dadeville, T.R. Miller and St. Pauls should once again be teams to look out for in the 4A ranks, while teams that could surprise some folks include Geneva, Pike County, Rehobeth and Thomasville.

*** CLASS 5A - Opelika, Charles Henderson and Greenville should be the top teams in the area, but Blount will always be the top team in South Alabama. Other folks that should be hard for winning records include Monroe County, Carroll, Eufaula and Wetumpka.

*** CLASS 6A - Enterprise might be better than it has in years, while Opelika is picked #1 in the state, and other area teams that will be hard to beat will include Dothan, Northview, Robert E. Lee and Jeff Davis.

ELBA FIELD THREE TEAMS IN YOUTH FOOTBALL

The Tri-County Youth Football League will kick off its season this week and Elba will once again have three teams in the youth program. It was feared that Elba might not have enough players to field a team in the 11-12 age group (peewee), but after meeting last week, fifteen players showed up, and the team is now working hard to get ready for its season opener.

*** CLASS 7A - Dadeville, T.R. Miller and St. Pauls should once again be teams to look out for in the 7A ranks, while teams that could surprise some folks include Geneva, Pike County, Rehobeth and Thomasville.

*** CLASS 8A - Opelika, Charles Henderson and Greenville should be the top teams in the area, but Blount will always be the top team in South Alabama. Other folks that should be hard for winning records include Monroe County, Carroll, Eufaula and Wetumpka.

*** CLASS 9A - Enterprise might be better than it has in years, while Opelika is picked #1 in the state, and other area teams that will be hard to beat will include Dothan, Northview, Robert E. Lee and Jeff Davis.

THUMBLING THROUGH THE NOTEBOOK....

*** There is a rumor going around that the 1999 Elba High "Homecoming" game will be played at Miller Memorial Stadium, and whether the game is played at the old stadium or not, it will be a special night for Elba Tiger football fans as members of the 1989 state championship team will be honored at halftime. The Tigers brought home Elba's first state championship ever under the coach of Frank Pyle, and will return on the 10th anniversary of the championship season. Also is attendance at the game will be many of the members of the 1979 team that snapped Andalusia's long winning streak. The seniors on that team will be back for their 20th

reunion, and along with the '89 players, may very well bring back to Elba some of the best players to ever put on the black and gold. It should be special!

*** While there is always plenty of excitement about the start of the high school football season, the excitement will be somewhat dampening at Wheeler High School, in Georgia. One of the team's players has been in critical condition in intensive care since a heat-related incident in late July, while on August 14 another team member drowned after an accident at the team's football camp at a park. The youngster died after dropping from a zip line into the water, and the accident obviously put an end to the press camp.

*** I can remember when the headlines leading up the beginning of the high school and college football seasons dealt with who would start at quarterback, how tough the schedules were, and who would be the top early season match ups. Saturday morning I picked up a *Dragon Eagle* and the two part stories on the Sports page were about Bill Oliver settling his lawsuit against Andalusia, and how the woman that filed the complaint about Mike Elbow and received a \$11 percent pay raise shortly before the word got out about their alleged relationship. At the bottom of the page was an article about Ward Burton winning the pole for NASCAR's Pepsi 400. Maybe I should start at the front page and work my way back.

*** I realize that college football is a big money sport, but the people up at Auburn have certainly proved that point since the end of last season as they have passed out as much cash as many small banks. Auburn settled last week with former Coach Bill Oliver for \$210,000, had earlier given \$600,000 to former Coach Terry Bowden and handed \$500,000 out to Florida State to get out of their contract with the Seminoles. When you add the \$700,000 given to new Coach Tommy Tuberville, it has been a very expensive off-season for Auburn. I bet the folks up at Auburn will be glad when the season starts.

OTHER PICKS:

J.F. Shields 29 J.U. Blacksher 12

Coffeyville 27 Ross 13

Dozier 20 Tuscaloosa 12

Marbury 20 Isabella 0

G.W. Long 23 Clayton 12

Georgiana 41 McKenzie 0

Montgomery Academy 17 St. Jude 6

Trinity 21 Catholic 0

Cottonwood 14 Rehobeth 10

Geneva 14 Geneva County 13

Highland Home 22 Goshen 18

Straughn 21 Louisville 14

Samson 15 Slocomb 12

Wicksburg 20 Houston County 13

Eufaula 28 Abbeville 8

Ashford 14 Pike County 8

Daleville 21 Bullock County 13

T.R. Miller 14 Clarke County 6

Dale County 17 Headland 3

W.S. Neal 22 Hillcrest 15

St. Paul's 24 Andalusia 7

Charles Henderson 20 Carroll 10

Dothan 14 Greenville 8

Wetumpka 20 Opelika 17

Northview 17 Baldwin County 14

R.E. Lee 21 Carter 0

Jeff Davis 14 Lanier 3

Enterprise 20 Foley 10

Opelika 21 Vigor 10

ELBA VS. BRANTLEY

The Elba Tigers are hoping that a new coach and a new attitude will carry them to a season opening upset over the defending Class 1A state champion Brantley Bulldogs, in a Thursday night contest, in Brantley.

The 1999 high school football season will kick off this week with all five area teams hitting the field in search of a season-opening win.

Opening week battles will find Elba at Brantley, Thorsby at Zion Chapel, Ariton at Kinston and Luverne at New Brockton.

Following are previews of the opening week action:

ELBA AT BRANTLEY

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ELBA AT BRANTLEY

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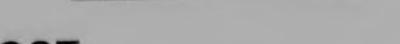
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